**YUGOSLAVIA: Kosovo Albanians Protest Power Grab**

Roughly 8,000 ethnic Albanians protested the passage yesterday of constitutional amendments giving Serbia more power over Kosovo, according to Yugoslav press reports. Helmeted police armed with automatic rifles stood guard outside the Kosovo legislature as it voted. Earlier, a local party official claimed anyone voting against the changes would be committing political suicide. After they heard how the vote went, some demonstrators took to the streets, throwing rocks and bricks and firing guns at security officials. The latter thwarted an attempted march from Urosevac, where most of the protests have taken place, to Pristina, the capital, and isolated the town. The militia used tear gas and rubber truncheons to break up the protests; injuries were reported on both sides.

Serbian Party leader Milosevic and his supporters succeeded in intimidating the predominantly Albanian Kosovo leaders by playing on their fears of losing their privileged positions and of a federal takeover of the province. The authorities appear to be in control of the demonstrations, and Albanians probably will revert to peaceful work boycotts and sit-ins after a few days of sporadic street protests. If protests continue longer, the authorities probably will retaliate with more tear gas, truncheons, and water cannons